

<http://www.1stgossomsendscouts.org.uk>

CUBS WELCOME PACK

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A GUIDE FOR NEW MEMBERS
AND THEIR PARENTS

Welcome to 1st Gossoms End Cub Pack

We are a highly active part of the West Herts Scouting District. Our members are aged between 8 and 10½, and they take part and enjoy an active, exciting, fun, and adventurous programme of activities.

- We spend most weeks between Easter and late September 'outside'.
 - We take a break during the Summer holidays as many Cubs are on holiday.
 - As a Pack we camp once every year for a weekend and we attend competitions at which pack awards can be obtained, these are often used as a basis of cub training
 - We meet on Monday from 18:45 – 20:15 or Friday nights from 18:30 – 20:00. Leaders normally arrive a little earlier to prepare for the evening.
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Uniform

The Cub uniform consists of:-

- Green Cub T-shirt and a Green Sweat shirt, for when it is colder(available from The Complete Outdoors, Bourne End or <http://www.outdoors.ltd.uk>).
 - Black school shoes or trainers.
 - A green and yellow neckerchief with woggle - to be supplied when invested.
 - Black (school) trousers are needed for formal events such as Church parades
 - notice will be given ahead of these dates. Cubs are asked to own a complete uniform. Second hand uniforms are occasionally available. Please ask for help if required.
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Camping

We always have at one Pack camp every year just before the School Summer Holidays. We spend a weekend away and normally include activities such as potholing, climbing, abseiling, wide games and the Cresta run at Phasels Wood.

Activities and Supervision

Part of the appeal of Scouting is the provision of adventurous activities whether they be canoeing, climbing or a walk around a campsite in the dark. The Scout Association has strict rules regulating these activities and, when appropriate, trained instructors are used for activities.

As Cubs get older, they are encouraged to take a leadership role in the Cub Pack. This is always done under the overall supervision of the Cub Leaders, again following nationally set guidelines.

Generally, camps and events run for the whole Pack are organised by the leaders, with assistance from older Scouts when needed. Information about activities is always circulated in a letter prior to the event. ns.

On all Cub events, a first aid kit is carried and at least one leader trained in first aid will be in attendance.

Behaviour & Discipline

One of the ingredients of a good Cub Pack is underlying discipline. All Cubs are expected to behave appropriately and inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated.

Generally, minor incidents will be dealt with a telling off at the time by the leader in charge. More serious examples, such as bullying, will result in the Cub's parents being contacted, and the Cub possibly being suspended. These measures seem obvious, but we feel it important that all Cubs are aware of what is expected of them. Sixers and the older Cubs in particular will be asked to set a good example to the younger members of the Pack.

Commitment and Obligations

Members of 1st Gossoms End Troop are expected to take an active role in the activities of the pack. We would hope Cubs could aim for the following:

- Attend all Cub meetings unless ill or away.
- Take part in one overnight event each year.
- Take part in St George's Day Parade in April.

A number of events are organised for Cubs in the Pack. It is hoped that the Cubs will want to take advantage of the activities on offer to them. If Cubs have to miss meetings due to schoolwork or sports commitment, they should talk to the Cub Leader.

Money Matters

Making Payments

We would be grateful if any payments, whether they are by cash or cheque, are placed in a sealed envelope with the Cubs name and the reason for the payment on the front, please pass these to the section leaders or to the group treasurer.

Subs

Subs are collected once a year on the registration evening held in January. The amount is currently set at £105 per year. This money covers: -

- Annual fees to District, County and National bodies for insurance and leader training. This is called a capitation fee, and currently stands at £35.15 per year.
- Money is also required to cover the main bills of the hut such as rates, electricity, water and insurance. There is also an on-going amount of general repair and maintenance. However, for major repairs the group still has to look to fund-raising and donations.
- Badges.
- Neckerchiefs
- Equipment needed for Pack meetings.

Gift Aid - Please complete the Gift Aid form.

This allows us to get the income tax you paid back on the subs. This gives us approximately £24 extra per person, for just a signature on your part.

Scouting is for all children, regardless of their background. Financial help is available to allow Cubs to attend camps who otherwise would be unable to take part. Please contact a leader in the strictest of confidence if we can offer help in any way.

Leader Contacts

Cubs@1stgossomsendscouts.org.uk

If you have any problems or queries, please don't hesitate to contacting any of the leaders. We are there to help you and your child.

If you are interested in helping out with the Pack, or the Group as a whole, please contact us. There are no payments for being a leader or helper, but what you get out of it is much better than that - seeing the children having fun and enjoying themselves and learning valuable life skills. (New enthusiastic members are welcome!)

The Group Executive Committee supports the Scout Group. The role of the committee is to organise fundraising events to support the Group, to purchase new equipment and to maintain the Scout Hut. If you can spare a little time - a couple of hours one evening a month for a meeting, or a few hours to help at events - please make yourselves known to one of the leaders.

More information can be found about 1st Gossoms End Scout Group on our website.

<http://www.1stgossomsendscouts.org.uk>

What is Scouting?

Sir Robert Baden-Powell started scouting over 80 years ago. He was a soldier, and got the idea while he was serving in the African town of Mafeking. He brought this idea home to England after the war, and tried it out with several groups of young boys from all over the country, and from different walks of life. This ended up with him organising a camp on the now famous Brownsea Island.

The old fashioned approach of 'DYB DYB DYB' and wide brimmed hats went out of the window at the review of Scouting in 1967, so we won't make your child wear silly hats unless they want to!

Scouting still remains one of the biggest movements in the world. It differs from other youth organisations in that it requires all Scouts to make a promise "The Scout Promise" and to follow a few simple rules "The Scout Law".

Scouts are the next step on from Cubs in their personal learning curve. Here, they will learn even more skills than before, as well as expanding on the ones that they already have.

The activities that your child participates in will test them to the limits both mentally and physically. As your child gets older, these will get easier and your child will want to learn new skills, and try even more testing activities. The leaders will try to encourage your child to do this as much as possible, but in the end, it is down to them to show us what they can do.

There are adult leaders on hand to help your child as much as they want us to and when they need it.

"It is a movement, because it moves forward. As soon as it stops moving, it becomes an Organisation, and is no longer Scouting." -- Sir Robert Baden-Powell.

What do we do?

The Training Programme

The five stages of the Progressive Training Scheme in the Cubs Section are:-

- Membership and Joining in Badges
- Challenges
- Chief Scout's Silver Award
- Activity Badges
- Group Awards

In addition, the Cubs are actively encouraged to complete Activity badges which they principally undertake themselves at home with occasional support at evening sessions.

How do I find out about these activities/events?

The mailing service tends to be via your child. We plan to write our own monthly newsletter, which we prefer to email to parents as it is more likely to be delivered and helps keep the costs down. (Please tell us your preference on delivery method). This contains general information about the Scout Group and its activities and future events and dates. However, if at any time you are not sure about the arrangements for a Pack activity, do have a chat with the Leaders after a Pack meeting or contact them at home by phone or email.

Do You Want to Help?

Your child may come home from a Pack meeting and say, "I need to know how to build an open fire for camp!"

Your child expects you to be interested and will get much more out of Scouting if you are prepared to offer your support. There are lots of ways in which you can help, for example:-

- Helping prepare refreshments for a Group event
 - Helping transport Cubs to events and outings or move kit to camp
 - Supporting the Scout Group's social events, Annual General Meeting, and Open Evenings
 - Joining the Scout Group Executive Committee to help them raise funds and manage the Scout Group.
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The Group Executive Committee

Each year, the Scout Group elects an Executive Committee consisting of a number of parents and various Leaders in the Group to carry out the day-to-day tasks of running the Scout Group. They are responsible for purchasing equipment and maintaining Group property. The function of the Group Executive Committee is also to support and help the Group Scout Leader carry out his or her role in maintaining an effective and successful Scout Group.

What do you gain from helping?

You will have the opportunity to meet a variety of new people and make a real contribution to help your local community. Please do not be shy to offer your help and if you feel you have any skills to offer to the Cub Pack please contact your Cub Leader. By playing your part and supporting your child you will share the enjoyment, friendship and fun of the Family of Scouting.

The Cub Promise and Law

The Cub Promise

I promise that I will do my best
To do my duty to God and to the Queen
To help other people
And to keep the Cub Scout Law

The Cub Law

Cubs Scouts always do their best,
Think of others before themselves
And do a good turn every day.

The Cub Scout Motto

Be Prepared

Health/Contact Information

Below, you will find a form; a similar form is also issued before each and every camp. It is important that you complete this form fully and honestly - no matter how small or trivial the problem. It is important that we are able to contact the parents should the need arise. Please could you fill out the form and return it to one of the leaders as soon as possible.

Cubs Personal Details	
First Name(s)	
Surname	
Date of Birth	
Home Address	
Telephone Number	
Parent 1 Name and Mobile Number	
Parent 2 Name and Mobile Number	
Parent 1 Work Number	
Parent 2 Work Number	
Email address for Parent(s)	

Alternative Contact Details - In case we are unable to contact you, please give us details of another person who may be contacted.

Alternative Contact Details	
Name	
Relationship to Cub	
Address	
Home Phone Number	
Work Phone Number	
Mobile Phone Number	

Medical Information - Please include as much detail in this section as possible including **any** medication they are on, or should not be given, any past illness which a hospital would need to know about before treatment, and **all** allergies. Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

NHS Number	
Date of Last Tetanus Injection	
Are they up to Date With All	YES/NO (Please Circle)

Childhood Immunisations?	
If NO, Please Give Details	
Illness/Medical Conditions e.g. Asthma, Hay Fever, Travel Sickness etc.	
Any Allergies	
Medication	
Special Dietary Needs	
Doctors Details	
Doctors Name	
Practice Name	
Address	
Telephone Number	

Parent/Guardian's Permission

In the event that my son requires medical treatment, I give my permission for the qualified medical staff to act in their best interest, and for any Leader to sign such documents as when may be necessary on my behalf.

I will also notify a leader **immediately** if any of the information on this form should change.

Signature	
Print Name	
Relationship to Cub	
Date	

Please return these forms to a Leader as soon as possible.
